



July 26, 2020

Marching Pioneer Program Update #3

Dear Students and Parents,

I hope that all is well with everyone. I want to thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience during these times. This is yet another VERY comprehensive update for our remaining summer plans. Please read it all, and make note of the changes made. Thanks so much!

Before I get into the details, I want to acknowledge how blessed I am with the team that I have. There have been staff members and parent volunteers who have been working hard to try and make marching band go and go well under these challenging times. So I want to thank all of them.

Unfortunately, one of our staff members will not be with us this year due to conflicting work schedules. Mary Holben, Auxiliary Coach will not be with us this year due to her demanding Columbus Zoo Schedule. We will miss her passion, dedication, care for students, and expertise. Thank you Mary, for everything. Please see her note attached this note to the entire band program. You'll be missed Mary.

We are in the process of locating a full time coach for our Auxiliary team and we are close to making that decision very soon. More information will come as this continues to develop.

Colorguard, I'd like to meet with you tomorrow via Microsoft Teams. Please email me ALL of your availability for tomorrow. The meeting should last no longer than 30 minutes. I can be reached at ishbah_cox@olsd.us

Mask Mandates (Very Important)

Masks must be worn at all times unless it hinders you from performing what we are asking you to do. If there are any individual health concerns regarding the use of masks please make me aware of this as soon as possible so we can identify the student with the appropriate wristband.

New Schedule Details

As I mentioned to you a few days ago, I will be sending an updated schedule for our August rehearsals. It has been attached. Note: the second week of August, (probably Wednesday), will be a longer day so we have the opportunity to honor our seniors, the **Class of 2021**. We will have more details about this soon.

These next August rehearsals will be radically different in how I define Band Camp. The hours are shorter and we are limited in how we interact, work, and ultimately function as a band program. Unfortunately, this is the reality until things change. So I will challenge you to embrace the things you CAN do rather than focus, meditate, and embrace on the things you cannot do.

Mental Notes

Keep the following in mind as we continue to work on a couple of missing pieces in the schedule:

- The Mini Bands will be determined later this week. No need to email me wondering the who, what, and how. We are working on it. We will let you know.
- My discussion of mini bands will take place in rehearsal this week. You can bring your questions then.
- Our rehearsals will be outside. Doing this will be safest for us, especially wind instrumentalist.
- The Wednesday rehearsal on the second week of August will probably go an additional 1.5-2.0 hours because of the senior celebration.
- The location of the drop offs and pick-ups will be determined by mini bands and starting stations. This will be released hopefully this week.



-Percussion, your drop-off and pick-up will be at the loading dock. Cars must release students and continue to move in this area. Please follow the directions of the staff, parents, and volunteers so we do not cause major traffic jams.

-The schedule that I send out could change again. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dates to Remember

July 29th Brass 7:45 check-in, 8am-11am (Outside) Woodwinds 11:45 check-in, 12pm-3pm

July 30th Brass 7:45 check-in, 8am-11am (Outside) Woodwinds 11:45 check-in, 12pm-3pm

August 7th Picture Day Postponed until August 28th

August 9th- Rehearsal cancel

August 13th- Post Camp Performance Cancelled

August 14th OOHS Freshmen Orientation Performance (BLT's Only-TBD/This event may or may not happen).

Full Rehearsals resume will begin on Wednesday, August 19th 3PM-5PM

New Music

Here's the link for the one of the charts for show #1.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JBhJtgBOlPaBfqX-WOtkZBM9VBBB2fKl>

Make sure you are logged into your OLSD account. You cannot access this drive from personal accounts. The link will take you to the wind parts only. Percussion parts will come later. I will speak with you about our show concepts this week in rehearsal. It's been evolving throughout the summer. Thanks for your patience.

Information on Social Media

It's come to my understanding that there may be blogs and various social media outlets out to try and decipher and supply information about a variety of things. I want to encourage everyone to seek first the resources that I share with you. You can always reach out to me as well. Anything that's out regarding the Orange Program will come from me. There are some social media sources that you can trust. We have our own Twitter Account @OrangeBandFans and the POPArts has created a Facebook account, Patrons of Orange Performing Arts that shares what I am sharing with you now. Any other account is information that did not come from me. So I wouldn't rely on it until you heard from me.

Attached to this letter are the following documents to help us continue throughout the summer:

- **August Band Daily Schedule**-This will become our daily schedule for the two weeks of rehearsal in August.
- **Mary Holben's Letter**- Self explanatory

In Closing

We will get through this and we will do everything within our power to do this safely.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ishbah Cox, Director of Bands, Olentangy Orange High School

email: ishbah_cox@olsd.us

cell: 614-382-4071

SUMMER BAND PRACTICES 2020 - TWO-A-DAYS AM SESSION – MINI BANDS & DRUMLINE					
	DROP OFF AT:	BLT, DIR. & TECH CHECK-IN	STUDENT CHECK-IN	START - PICK UP	PICK UP LOCATION:
MINI BAND 1A & 2A:	OOHS BUS LOOP	7:30 a	7:45 a	8:00 a - 12:15p	OOMS BUS SIDE
MINI BAND 1B & 2B:	OOMS BUS CURB	7:30 a	7:45 a	8:00 a - 12:15p	OOHS FRONT CURB
DRUMLINE AM:	OOHS LOADING DOCK	7:30 a	7:45 a	8:00 - 11:30a	OOHS LOADING DOCK
GUARD: (TBA)					
Students: Check your temperature at home, hydrate, and eat a healthy breakfast before coming to school.					
7:30 a	STUDENT LEADER CHECK IN				
7:45 a	BAND STUDENT CHECK-IN				
8:00 a	- HOMEBASE - ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 min) MORNING EXERCISES, CONDITIONING (30 min)				
8:35 a	QUICK WATER BREAK				
8:40 a	MINI BAND MARCHING FUNDAMENTALS DRILL LEARNING/SONG REHEARSALS DRUMLINE REHEARSAL WATER BREAKS THROUGHOUT				
11:40 a	ANNOUNCEMENTS PACK UP / CLEAN UP/DISINFECT DISMISS				
12:15 p	PICK UP TIME/STUDENTS GO HOME FOR LUNCH & REST DRUMLINE 11:30 p & WW/BRASS 12:15 p				

SUMMER BAND PRACTICES 2020 - TWO-A-DAYS – PM SESSION – WOODWIND, BRASS & DRUMLINE SECTIONS					
	DROP OFF AT:	BLT, DIR. & TECH CHECK-IN	STUDENT CHECK-IN	START - PICK UP	PICK UP LOCATION:
BRASS	OOHS BUS LOOP	2:00 p	2:15 p	2:30 p - 6:15 p	OOMS BUS SIDE
WOODWINDS	OOMS BUS CURB	2:00 p	2:15 p	2:30 p - 6:15 p	OOHS FRONT CURB
DRUMLINE	OOHS LOADING DOCK	xxx	1:30 p	1:45 - 6:15 p	OOHS FRONT CURB
GUARD: (TBA)					
WW & BRASS	<u>STUDENTS:</u> Make sure you hydrate, rest and eat a good lunch before returning to school.				DRUMLINE ONLY
	DRUMLINE CHECK IN - LOADING DOCK				1:30 p
	DRUMLINE FIELD PRACTICE (30 min)				1:45 p
2:00 p	WW & BRASS STUDENT LEADER CHECK IN				
2:15 p	BAND STUDENT CHECK-IN ----- -----DRUMLINE SECTIONALS				2:15 p
EVERYONE----- EVERYONE -----EVERYONE					
2:30 p	SECTIONALS by INSTRUMENT, SONG REHEARSAL TEAM BUILDING & SOCIAL				
5:45 p	ANNOUNCEMENTS PACK UP / CLEAN UP/DISINFECT DISMISS				
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Mary Holben's Letter to Marching Band Program

Hello Team,

I am sorry to say that I have resigned my coaching position with the OOHS Marching Band. Tonight's practice was my last practice for this season.

This comes from a variety of pressures - changes at the Zoo have limited the flexibility of my work schedule and have put me in more direct contact with the public. Due to budget cuts at the Zoo, I am unable to make my own hours, making weeknight practices effectively impossible for me. And quite frankly, I feel it's risky to the point of irresponsibility to bring whatever germs I'm likely to pick up at the Zoo to band practices.

Dr. Cox and I spoke yesterday about the possibilities moving forward. We are uncertain of how this season will move forward and if it will be possible to secure another color guard coach. The color guard team will of course continue. He was kind enough to offer me the coaching position in 2021. We will speak next spring about this possibility.

I have offered to Dr. Cox that if weekly practices move forward, I would be willing to volunteer my time on Monday nights. This would be in a tech-like role, supporting and cleaning the work that you all are working on. I will be turning in my building access card, the extra flags, and silks, and any other materials I have this week.

At the start of this season, just a few weeks ago, I selected a leadership team that I am confident will be successful in teaching flag and dance routines, working cooperatively, and supporting all members of the OOHS marching band. I am confident in their kindness, grace, problem-solving, and conflict resolution skills. I hope that this will prove to be the case as you move toward band camp.

Finally, I will miss it. This program has been part of my life for five seasons and I am not happy to end my time in this way. More importantly, I will miss you. You amazingly bright, thoughtful, funny, caring young people who make coaching a gratifying and humbling experience.

I can't guarantee what the fall will hold but I do know this: if there are marching band performances, you will see me in the stands and hear my cheers across the field.

Yours most sincerely,
Mary